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## Region 5

### Hot Topics

#### **Illinois EPA Issues “seal order” to Sterigenics**

Key Message: On Feb. 15, 2019, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency issued a “seal order” that sealed “[a]ll storage containers of ethylene oxide” at Sterigenics’ sterilization facility in Willowbrook, Illinois pursuant to 415 ILCS 5/34(b). Sterigenics filed a complaint opposing the seal order. On Feb. 20, a federal judge denied the company’s emergency motion to lift the order.

The seal order cites the latest air monitoring results which the Village of Willowbrook commissioned, starting on Feb. 5. The highest indoor concentration they reported was 216 ug/m3 at the Willowbrook Police Department. The highest outdoor concentration they reported was 160 ug/m3, also at the Willowbrook Police Department. U.S. EPA is awaiting our results from a canister that was co-located at Willowbrook Village Hall, where the Village of Willowbrook reported a reading of 38 ug/m3. Sterigenics has filed a complaint, opposing the seal order.

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